

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The careful management of Armadale's diverse and rich history and cultural heritage is vital to its future development. It is appropriate to identify those places which have a special link with the people, activities and events of the past as the foundation for the present and future community. In a world of increasingly rapid change the recognition of, and appropriate response to, cultural heritage plays an important role in the sustainable economic development of the City.

An appropriate response to the City's heritage values confers a range of ongoing benefits to the wider community including:

- a) supporting both rural and urban amenity;
- b) underpinning the identity and "sense of place";
- c) enhancing the quality of the built environment;
- d) providing familiarity and the presence of landmark: and
- e) Celebrates Armadale's History for wide community benefit.

The City therefore recognises the importance of protecting and supporting heritage and character within its municipality.

The term heritage and character are defined as follows:

### **Heritage:**

The Heritage of Western Australian Act 2018 defines cultural heritage significance as – *"aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for individuals or groups within Western Australia."*

In this policy, the term heritage refers to places that have undergone an evaluation process that considers and analyses documentary and physical evidence relating to the cultural heritage significance of the place. Following this evaluation process, heritage places may be classified and included in:

- The State Register of Heritage Place
- The City of Armadale Local Heritage Survey
- The Town Planning Scheme
- A Local Heritage Area
- Heritage List

### **Character:**

Refers to a place's streetscape aesthetic and appeal. Urban Character is defined as being *"essentially identified by built form and age, topography, open space, streetscape, land use and activity, and all areas exhibit some form of urban character"* (State Planning Policy 3.5, Historic Heritage Conservation).

Abbreviations:

**LHS** – Local Heritage Survey previously known as the Municipal Heritage Inventory

**TPS** – Town Planning Scheme

**WAPC** – Western Australian Planning Commission

## **2. POLICY OBJECTIVES**

This Policy references the objectives of the State Planning Policy No.3.5 Historic Heritage Conservation in achieving incentive and positive heritage outcomes while also responding to changing aspirations of property owners and the wider community.

The Objectives of this Policy are:

- a) To promote public awareness of places of cultural heritage significance within the City of Armadale.
- b) To encourage the retention, conservation and promotion of heritage places located within the City of Armadale. In particular, encouraging development that reinforces heritage values outlined within the Local Heritage Survey.
- c) To recognise the commitment of property owners that conserve heritage places that provides benefit to the wider community.
- d) To provide assistance to owners with the conservation of places recognised as having cultural heritage significance within the City of Armadale.

## **3. APPLICATION OF POLICY**

This policy applies to all properties within the City's Town Planning Scheme that are listed on the City's Local Heritage Survey, Heritage List, or located within a Heritage Area.

## **4. POLICY – STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Places of recognised State heritage significance within the City of Armadale may be eligible for grants and subsidies to assist with conservation works and documentation through the Heritage Council of Western Australia. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the Heritage Council of Western Australia to determine eligibility.

## **5. POLICY – PLANNING INCENTIVES AND CONCESSIONS**

5.1 The City may consider variations to certain development standards for developments that support the retention, conservation and promotion of heritage places and reinforce the cultural heritage values of the place. Variation to development standards in the Town Planning Scheme, approved Structure Plan, Residential Design Codes or other Local Planning Policy may include but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Plot Ratio;
- b) Setbacks; and
- c) Other development standards.

All applications for variations of development standards will be assessed on their merits. Applicants are encouraged to provide sufficient justification to enable consideration of any variations. This may include the submission of a heritage statement or report from a qualified heritage consultant outlining how the heritage place is to be retained and / or restored.

5.2 Council also may support requests to initiate an amendment to the TPS to provide for an Additional Use to permit an otherwise prohibited (x) use where:

- a) Evidence is provided that the retention / upgrading of a building or structure listed on the Local Heritage Survey is causing economic hardship to the owner; and
- b) The Additional Use is:
  - i. Consistent with orderly and proper planning;
  - ii. The Additional Use would facilitate the upgrade of the Heritage Building or Place; and
  - iii. Would cease in the event of the heritage building or structure not being retained or upon the diminution or the agreed heritage value as determined by the City.

## **6. RELATED LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONDITIONS**

The City will respectively refer to the Local Heritage Survey and applicable Local Planning Policies to assist in decision making under the City of Armadale Town Planning Scheme No.4.

The policy does not apply to Aboriginal Heritage sites, which are subject to separate legislation provided by the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

### **6.1 This policy:**

- a) is supplementary to and is to be read in conjunction with the appropriate provisions of the City of Armadale Town Planning Scheme, its Local Planning Policies and relevant State Planning Policies such as Design WA and the Residential Design Codes;
- b) will be taken into account by the City in making recommendations to the Western Australian Planning Commission for the development and subdivision of land subject to the City's Local Heritage Survey;
- c) does not bind the City in respect to any application for planning approval and the need for proper and orderly planning in accordance with State Regional and Local Policies will be paramount; and
- d) applies to Local Heritage Survey places listed as Management Categories 1 and 2, while Council may at its discretion apply the policy to places listed as Management Category 3 and 4.

**6.2** Where, in the opinion of the City, a change to the Scheme or variation to requirements or standards is likely to affect any adjoining owner or the general locality, the City may:

- (a) consult the affected parties by following one or more of the provisions for advertising uses under *Clause 64 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* and the Neighbour Consultation Requirements and Procedures of the Residential Design Codes where these apply; and
- (b) consider any submission received prior to making its determination to grant the variation.

**6.3** The City's consideration of discretionary applications for planning approval or amendments to the Scheme will have due regard to the objectives of the policy and Local Heritage Survey and approvals shall be dependent upon the City being satisfied that:

- (a) approval is consistent with proper and orderly planning, the strategic objectives of regional and local policy and the "Matters to be Considered by the City" criteria set out in *Clause 67 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*; and
- (b) any discretion or variation permitted by the approval will not have an adverse effect upon the occupiers or users of the development, the amenity of the locality or the opportunities for future development.

**6.4** In applying the Heritage Management and Incentives Policy, the City may require a landowner to enter into a formal agreement with the City or may require independent advice from an appropriately qualified heritage consultant at the cost of the applicant. The City may also seek to implement a Design review of the proposal in accordance with the City's Local Planning Policy and Practices.

**6.5** The application of the policy shall be guided by the principle that the discretion afforded by the City in relation to a place listed on the Local Heritage Survey shall be commensurate with the wider community benefit resulting from the development.

**D148/12/07** Development Services Committee 11 Dec 2007 - Adopted by Council 17 Dec 2007  
**D25/4/13** Development Services Committee 15 April 2013 - Adopted by Council 22 April 2013  
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